

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the word update implies, the planning effort represented by this document was geared toward providing a "snapshot" of the Town of Kill Devil Hills in 1997 as compared to 1993. Generally, the picture shows a town that is an appealing place to live and to visit, a town that has made definite strides, and a town that is looking for better ways to serve the public and meet the demands of the future.

- ! The Coastal Area Management Act of 1974 (CAMA) establishes a cooperative program of coastal area management between local governments and the State. Land use planning lies at the center of local government's involvement.
- ! The Town of Kill Devil Hills was incorporated in 1953.
- ! Kill Devil Hills is located within Dare County. Its neighbors to the north are the towns of Kitty Hawk and Southern Shores. Its neighbor to the south is the Town of Nags Head.
- ! Kill Devil Hills is a resort community of approximately 5,130 residents with a peak seasonal population of about 40,000.
- ! The Board of Commissioners, as a part of its mission, is intent on efforts to foster civic pride by enhancing the natural beauty of the area such as the:
  - < promotion of public perception
  - < promotion of family values and beach atmosphere
  - < maximizing value of taxpayer dollars (fiscal responsibility)
  - < protection and accessibility of natural resources
- ! During the policy discussion process, the Town compared its land use policies to those of Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, and Dare County as found in their land use plans of record. Generally, the three localities adopted land use policies that were consistent with each other except for support of a community-wide sewer system and with respect to building heights.
- ! The population of Kill Devil Hills is predominantly Caucasian (+98%).